

# Lower Oahe Waterfowl Access Areas 2014-15 Waterfowl Report

For the Week of December 22, 2014

## MAIL SHACK CREEK AREA

The duck numbers in this area remains good, with a few reports of them coming out during shooting hours last week when the front was moving through. Birds continue to feed in and around a couple of the walk-in fields however there are no new reports from hunters in the area. Reports from the pass shooting pits are that the birds have been coming out a little higher than some want to shoot. There have been some coming out lower on the less busy days though.

## REGISTRATION AREA

Hunting in most of the areas this past week was difficult for most of the hunters, with some birds coming out to feed in the morning and others coming out in the afternoon. **The decoy-only registration trailer and fields will be closed to on Christmas Day and will reopen the day after Christmas with drawings taking place one hour before sunrise.**

As of December 22 the list of fields closed to upland game hunting are field numbers 57, 58, 61, 62, 69, 71, 75, 77. The remaining areas normally open to upland game hunting as shown in the 2014-2015 Lower Oahe maps continue to be open at this time. Upland game hunters are reminded they need to watch for waterfowl hunters or the signs designating them as open or closed to upland game hunting in the other areas. To view the status of areas open or closed to hunting along with the types of crops in the fields at the bottom of the Lower Oahe page or by downloading the app to your smart phone.

## PASS-SHOOTING AREAS

There were a few out trying to pass shoot some birds this past week in the canal but there are no reports on success. A couple of reports from the Spring Creek area pits of low numbers and high flying birds.

## SOLID AND STRIPED GREEN AREAS

The flight west into and around the striped green area in Stanley County slowed some since last week, however there were a few birds sitting in the fields over the weekend. Hunters can access these fields to set out decoys and blinds by using the signed designated trails only. No reports from the solid and striped green areas east of Grey Goose Road. The solid green areas west of Highway 1804 have been seeing use in them on most days with reports of some birds being harvested. Hunters are able to drive out into the fields to set out and pick up decoys and blinds in this area but need to remember to be courteous to others that may already be in the area.

## SUMMARY

The population of ducks in a couple of the areas are good with a few hunters having success last week when the front moved through but most days the ducks are making it back to the water before shooting hours ( ½ hour before sunrise) and waiting until after shooting hours (sunset) to head out to feed. The decoy loaner trailers have been keeping busy this month with them being used most weekends and several of the week days. The doodle pages to reserve these trailers are updated each Sunday; the page allows hunters to reserve the trailers up to two weeks in advance. Information about the trailers and how to reserve them along with the liability waiver that will need to be filled out and signed can be found on the Lower Oahe Waterfowl page below the link to this report.

**A reminder to hunters planning a trip over the holidays the decoy-only registration trailer and fields will be closed on Christmas Day and will reopen the day after Christmas with drawings taking place one hour before sunrise.**

**Hunters in the area are reminded that the season for light geese closed on December 21, 2014. The High Plains duck season remains open with the closing date for that being January 15, 2015.**

**Information about the 25<sup>th</sup> annual youth goose hunt coming up on January 16, 17, 18 2015 can be found at the bottom of this report.**



# 25th Annual Central South Dakota Youth Goose Hunt January 16-18

The Central South Dakota Youth Goose Hunt is a free waterfowl hunt held in Pierre, for youth hunters ages 12-15. There is an information meeting held on Friday, Jan 16. The hunt will take place Saturday and Sunday mornings.

How To Seminars by industry pro staffers, Saturday meals, and prizes for all youth hunters!

**When:** Jan. 16-18, 2015

- Jan 16- Informational meeting starting at 7 pm at the Pierre Ramkota
- Jan 17 - Day 1 hunt
- Jan 17 - Instructional Seminars starting at 7 pm at the Pierre Ramkota
- Jan 18 - Day 2 hunt

**Where:** Pierre, SD

**Who:** Boys and Girls between the ages of 12-15

**For More Information contact:**

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**Space is limited!**

The Ramkota is offering reduced room rates  
for youth hunters!